

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 029407
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-03 TRSE-00 INSE-00 AGRE-00
CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
CIEP-01 FAA-00 VO-03 SCA-01 /032 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AVP:SCKEITER:JO
APPROVED BY EB/OA:MHSTYLES
EB/OA/AVP - AJWHITE
EB/AN - AJRIMAS
ARA/CAR - DPERCE
L/EB - PMICKEY (INFO)
CUSTOMS - RRAYMOND
INS - DPOWELL
TREASURY - JHHARPER (INFO)
AGR/APHIS/PPQ - GSNYDER (INFO)
-----100545Z 114810 /23-12
R 092011Z FEB 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 029407

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:EAIR, BF, US

SUBJECT:CIVAIR -INSTITUTION OF PRECLEARANCE AT FREEPORT

REF : (A) NASSAU 64; (B) NASSAU 70; (C) NASSAU
1169; (D) NASSAU 1503; (E) STATE 127364; (F) STATE
154203

1. INSPECTION AGENCIES ARE PROCEEDING APACE WITH
CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF PRECLEARANCE
AT FREEPORT:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 029407

A. THE PASSENGER VOLUME PREDICTED IN REF C IS SUFFICIENT,
PROVIDED NO SIGNIFICANT PORTION REPRESENTS A DRAIN FROM
THE NASSAU OPERATION. HOWEVER, IT DOES NOT JUSTIFY A
20 HOUR PER DAY OPERATION. THE INSPECTION AGENCIES
ENVISAGE A MAXIMUM OF TEN OR TWELVE HOURS OF NORMAL
OPERATIONS DAILY. FLIGHTS DEPARTING OUTSIDE THOSE

HOURS WOULD EITHER BE POST-CLEARED, OR PRECLEARED WITH PAYMENT OF OVERTIME BY THE AIRLINE CONCERNED. (WASHINGTON AGENCIES HAVE HEARD RUMORS THAT MACKEY WILL NOT UTILIZE FREEPORT PRECLEARANCE; THEY REQUEST CONFIRMATION EITHER THAT THE FIGURES IN REF C DO NOT INCLUDE MACKEY TRAFFIC, OR THAT MACKEY WILL IN FACT USE PRECLEARANCE.)

B. FACILITY PLANS HAVE RAISED CERTAIN QUESTIONS, PERHAPS IN PART BECAUSE OF INSUFFICIENT DETAIL. SPECIFICALLY, THERE APPEARS TO BE POTENTIAL FOR COMMINGLING CLEARED AND UNCLEARED PASSENGERS IN THE WALKWAY; THE INS INSPECTORS' AREA SEEMS SQUEEZED; THE STERILE LOUNGE APPEARS UNNECESSARILY LARGE; AND THERE IS NO VISIBLE PROVISION FOR SUPPLYING AREAS SUCH AS THE BAR.

2. PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION IMPLEMENTING BAHAMIAN COMMITMENT UNDER PRECLEARANCE AGREEMENT (PARA 4, REF B) AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREED SECURITY MEASURES (REF D) ARE ALSO IMPORTANT ELEMENTS IN CONSIDERATION OF NEW PRECLEARANCE POINT. WHAT IS PRESENT STATUS OF LATTER?

3. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT AT THIS POINT JUST HOW SOON FREEPORT COULD BE MANNED IF THE FACILITIES WERE READY. THE DEPT BELIEVES THIS QUESTION CAN BEST BE ADDRESSED WHEN IT IS KNOWN WHEN FACILITIES APPROVED BY THE INSPECTION AGENCIES WILL (OR CAN) BE COMPLETED. FYI ONLY: THE AGENCIES' BUDGETS FOR FYS 1977 AND 78 DO NOT INCLUDE FUNDS FOR PRECLEARANCE AT FREEPORT, BUT WE WILL BE ABLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THIS HURDLE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 029407

CAN BE OVERCOME ONLY WHEN THERE IS A FIRM TARGET DATE. OPENING THIS SPRING WILL IN ANY CASE PROBABLY PROVE IMPOSSIBLE. END FYI.

4. IT APPEARS TO DEPT THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO MEET WITH THE BAHAMIANS TO DISCUSS THE FREEPORT PROPOSAL. THE PRINCIPAL IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVE WOULD BE A TECHNICAL DISCUSSION OF THE FACILITY, HOPEFULLY INCLUDING PROVISION OF MORE DETAILED DRAWINGS THAN THOSE PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED, TO CLEAR UP THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN 1.B. ABOVE AND CREATE A SOUND BASIS FOR APPROVAL OF THE PLANS. HOWEVER, WE ALSO ENVISAGE A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE PROPOSAL, AND INDEED OF PRECLEARANCE IN THE BAHAMAS IN GENERAL, WITH INTERESTED U.S. AIRLINES PRESENT AS OBSERVERS, AND FEEL THAT PARTICIPATION BY STATE AND THE BAHAMIAN MFA IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE. (IN THAT CASE DEPUTY CHIEF OF STATE'S AVIATION POLICY DIVISION WOULD CHAIR U.S. DELEGATION.) UNLESS THE EMBASSY SEES OBJECTION, THEREFORE, PLEASE PROPOSE SUCH A MEETING IN WASHINGTON.

THE GENERAL REVIEW SHOULD REQUIRE ONLY A MORNING, BUT
IT WOULD PROBABLY BE WISE TO ALLOW TWO DAYS IN CASE THE
TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS REQUIRE ADDITIONAL TIME. IN VIEW
OF THE BAHAMIAN AND AIRLINE DESIRE FOR RAPID PROGRESS,
WE SUGGEST DATES AT BAHAMIAN CONVENIENCE ANYTIME DURING
FEBRUARY OR MARCH 1-8, WITH EXCEPTIONS OF FEB. 16-17.

VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CUSTOMS CLEARANCES, CUSTOMS INSPECTIONS, AIRPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE029407
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SCKEITER:JO
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770047-0613
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770257/aaaabymp.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a7c918c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 NASSAU 64, 77 NASSAU 70
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3361789
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR -INSTITUTION OF PRECLEARANCE AT FREEPORT
TAGS: EAIR, BF, US
To: NASSAU
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a7c918c9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009